MINUTES NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION BOARD OCTOBER 7, 2014

The meeting of the North Lebanon Township Parks & Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at the North Lebanon Township Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, North Lebanon Township. The pledge to the flag was recited.

The following members were present:

Dwayne Elder Chairperson
Gary Zelinske Member
Jay Snavely Member
Corey Hetrick Member
Kay Spannuth Member
Sheila Wartluft Asst. Manager

There were five guests in attendance.

Chairperson Elder asked if there were any additions or corrections or a motion to approve the September minutes.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to approve the September minutes. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Barbara Gaffney-Union Canal Master Plan

Barbara Gaffney introduced herself as President of the Lebanon County Historical Society. She also introduced Dave Weigard from Friends of Union Canal Tunnel Park. She stated she wanted to update everyone on the master plan for the park. She stated this is a ten year project which they would like to complete over time. She reiterated it will continue to be a nature park with the emphasis on the tunnel. She reported in the future they would like to re-build the Krall barn to be preserved for future generations and be used as a meeting place, to show exhibits, and as an educational facility. She mentioned they do have programs at their current meeting place, but it is not handicapped accessible and in the future they would be conducted at the new barn. She said the main idea of this barn is to show

the structure of this type of barn. There will most likely be farming equipment on display.

She showed the Board where the Rails to Trails would be going. Part of the area is wetland. The area has a beautiful view for observation overlooking the canal. She explained they would not be able to fill in the quarry. She explained that it is a private park which is owned and maintained by the Lebanon County Historical Society, but they want to keep it for families, children, education, and as a nature park.

Mr. Dave Weigard explained that one of the major things they are looking at is stabilization of the bank of the canal and they need to maintain the banks. Ms. Gaffney explained that it is costly. Question was asked if there was a date when they would start construction of the barn to which she answered they are hoping for next spring. She mentioned they do have some of the construction materials for the barn.

Mr. Weigard introduced Jim Schucker, Park Development Director, and Paul Quinn, Representative to Executive Counsel. He expressed his appreciation to the Township for all of their help. Question was asked whether the canal and the quarry were connected to which he replied no except in extreme storms. Question was asked about how much area they were discussing to which Ms. Gaffney replied 107 acres. She explained they would like to change the entrance from Tunnel Hill Road due to traffic from the Business Park to off of Mifflin Street. Discussion followed.

Mr. Weigard mentioned that when water is released from Lions' Lake the water cannot go over the farmland fast enough and it backs up. There is also a farm pond which overflows. Discussion followed regarding possibly extending the canal in the future. Ms. Gaffney said some of the projects consist of manual work and cleaning out. Discussion followed regarding some of the problems at the park. Request for help with the boat from someone who is a woodcrafter was made in case anyone knew of someone who might want to volunteer. Discussion continued.

New Business

Pertinent Issues

Sheila mentioned she visited the Long Lane field and the scoreboard sign had been altered to reflect the requested changes.

Old Business

Stormwater and Ball field improvements

Sheila reported she will try to have some photos regarding the work that is being done at the next meeting.

Pertinent Issues

Sheila mentioned the Township was working on the budget. Question was asked if anything was happening at Lenni Lenape Park to which Sheila replied that they would be planting the trees around October 20th or 21st. They will be pre-drilling the holes prior to that and everyone is to be available to plant trees. Discussion followed regarding the issue of staking or obtaining any other bids which had been discussed at last month's meeting.

Sheila mentioned they do call Pete Sildorff or Jim Schucker from the Union Canal Park when they plan to lower the water at Lion's Lake.

MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

With there being no more business brought before the Parks and Recreation Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Bertin Recording Secretary